Working Group Report

Multi-Species Management

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Task Force Meeting

December 1, 2004

Key Management Challenges Prioritized

Rank	*Key Management Issue*	*Votes*
1	**Science and multi-species management**	**18**
2	**Facilitating implementation of multi-species management in Everglades restoration**	**12**
3	**Urban water supply, flood protection, operational flexibility and multi-species management**	**7**
4	**Reconciling single and multi-species management protection**	**6**
5	**Energize non agency landholders to participate in multi-species management efforts**	**5**
6	Providing protection for marine species and estuarine habitats at risk	3
7	Multi-species protection and water quality	3
8	Multi-species management and control of invasive exotics	2
9	Communicating effectively on multi-species management among agencies and with the public	2

Definitions

A. ***Multi-species management:*** Management of multiple species such that management activities are balanced, and implemented to maximize species' benefits any minimize negative impacts.

B. ***Multi-species recovery planning:*** Recovery of multiple listed species through the restoration of ecological communities over large areas.

C. ***Single-species management:*** Management of a single species

D. ***Single-species recovery planning:*** Recovery actions focused on conservation of a single species.

Issue #1.
Science and Multi-Species Management

- Strengthen the scientific knowledge
- Identify priority species in CERP and other restoration projects
- Identify species not addressed by CERP, the multi-species recovery plan, the Science Coordination Group, etc.
- Determine if NSM targets provide adequate restoration to maintain species and communities
- Ensure that science is the basis for multi-species management and decision-making

Issue #1.
Science and Multi-Species Management

Accomplishments

- Multi-Species Recovery Plan
- Funded Key Research
- Science Planning & Science Quality
- NSM Review, Ecological Modeling
- RECOVER

Issue #1.
Science and Multi-Species Management

Opportunities

- Tighten science and management integration
- Revise the Multi-species Recovery Plan
- Continued support of applied restoration-related research
- Better management through better science using adaptive management
- Improve our ability to predict trade-offs among species and optimize multi-species benefits

Issue #2.
Facilitating Implementation of Multi-Species Management in Everglades Restoration

- Emphasize habitat issues and community focus
- Recognize and include the role of exotics
- IMPLEMENTATION is key

Issue #2.
Facilitating Implementation of Multi-Species Management in Everglades Restoration

Accomplishments

- MERIT
- Avian Ecology Workshop
- ATLSS (ecological models)
- DOI Reprogrammed funds
- CSOP
- Critical Ecosystem Studies Initiative (CESI)
- CERP planning

Issue #2.
Facilitating Implementation of Multi-Species Management in Everglades Restoration

Opportunities

- Develop science and tools to understand and evaluate multi-species benefits and tradeoffs in restoration

- Integrate hydrologic restoration with other management actions to better achieve success

- Implement programs to identify and address problems caused by exotic and nuisance species to achieve multi-species benefits

Issue #3.
Urban Water Supply, Flood Protection, Operational Flexibility and Multi-Species Management

- Timing – need answers soon to plan for progress
- Flood protection is critical to maintaining public support
- Balancing these priorities is critically important

Issue #3.
Urban Water Supply, Flood Protection, Operational Flexibility and Multi-Species Management

Accomplishments

- Modified Water Deliveries
- ISOP
- IOP

Issue #3.
Urban Water Supply, Flood Protection, Operational Flexibility and Multi-Species Management

Opportunities

- CSOP
- CERP
  - Decompartmentalization
  - EAA
  - Lake Okeechobee Regulation Schedule
  - Many others

Issue #4. Reconciling Single and Multi-Species Management

- Cape Sable seaside sparrow has been the hallmark of this issue
- Endangered Species Act requires a species-focused approach for some assessments
- Tradeoffs among species and multi-species rankings should be considered during planning

Issue #4. Reconciling Single and Multi-Species Management

Accomplishments

- ISOP
- IOP
- MSRP
- Current Task Force strategic issues
- Avian Ecology workshop follow-up
- Integral to all CERP planning
- Reprogrammed DOI funds

Issue #4. Reconciling Single and Multi-Species Management

Opportunities

- Multi-species modeling for CERP evaluations
- Emphasize community-based planning
- Increase regional conservation planning

Issue #5. Energize Non-Agency Landholders to Participate in Multi-Species Management Efforts

- Help landowners better understand the role of science in management issues
- Non-agency landholders are very important to ensuring effective conservation
- Non-agency landowners can become conservation leaders

Issue #5. Energize Non-Agency Landholders to Participate in Multi-Species Management Efforts

Accomplishments

- Conservation easements
- Habitat Conservation Plans
- Mitigation banking
- Wildlife Programs
- Safe Harbor agreements
- Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed land trust
- Lee County Master Mitigation Plan
- Engaging private landowners

Issue #5. Energize Non-Agency Landholders to Participate in Multi-Species Management Efforts

Opportunities

- Initiate and improve programs to help private landowners conserve natural resources
- Increase flexibility in private landowner incentives programs
- Identify innovative incentives and conservation solutions for private lands

Multi-Species Management Priorities

Issue #1 Science	Issue #2 Everglades Restoration	Issue #3 Water Supply	Issue #4 Single -vs- Multi	Issue # 5 Landowners
Tighten linkages	Develop tools	CSOP	Modeling	Expand programs
Revise MSRP	Integration	DECOMP	Community planning	Increase flexibility
Adaptive management	Benefits without exotics	Lake O schedule	Regional conservation planning	Innovative incentives
Predict trade-offs		EAA		
Support research				